



Training classes for September- December 2009

CONTACT US

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- Training Coordinator, Beverly Goudy
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TRAINING SITE LOCATION

Ascension Lutheran Church

1236 S. 27th St.

Ascension Lutheran Church is located just a few blocks south of the Mitchell Park Domes on the corner of 27th St. and Scott St. Parking is available in the rear of the building.

TRAINING REMINDERS

- Unless otherwise noted, all trainings are held at Ascension Lutheran Church
- No one is admitted to a session 15 minutes after start time
- All children **MUST** be pre-registered for child care **one week** prior to the class

CHILD CARE IS AVAILABLE

- A limited amount of **FREE** childcare is available for foster/adoptive parents while they take classes through the Foster/Adoptive Parent Training Program. Both biological and foster children of participants are eligible to attend. To arrange for childcare please call 414-229-4086 at least **one week prior** to the class date. If you request childcare and your plans change, please call the office to cancel.

PREPLACEMENT TRAINING SESSIONS

Preplacement Training Sessions are required for all individuals pursuing a foster care license. These sessions are designed to reinforce and clarify any information participants have learned as part of the licensing process. Participants must take all three sessions in order and complete them prior to taking placement of a child.

Session 1: Overview and Expectations

Three hours

This workshop is an overview of the purpose of foster care and the rules that govern the system. Participants will be introduced to how children enter care, achieving permanency, and the roles of people involved in the child welfare team. Participants will also review and discuss what is expected of them as caregivers.

Tuesday, Sept. 1, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 12, 9:00 a.m.-noon.

Saturday, Oct. 3, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 7, 9 a.m. - noon.

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 9 a.m. - noon.

Session 2: Children in Care and Their Families

Three hours

This workshop is an overview of what is involved in caring for a child in foster care. Participants will also review their role in maintaining family connections between the children in their care and their birth families.

Thursday, Sept. 3, 5:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 12, 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 3, 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 8, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 5, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 7, 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 3, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Session 3: Foster Family Self Care

Three hours

This workshop is an overview of the challenges associated with fostering. Participants will review grief and loss, the importance of coping and taking breaks, and connecting with others for support.

Tuesday, Sept. 8, 5:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 19, 9:00 a.m.- noon.

Saturday, Oct. 10, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 14, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 12, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

FOSTER PARENT ORIENTATION FOR RELATIVES

Foster Parent Orientation for Relatives are sessions specifically designed for relative caregivers pursuing a foster care license. These sessions are designed to reinforce and clarify any information participants have learned as part of the licensing process. Participants must take all three sessions in order. Please see above for session descriptions.

Session 1: Overview and Expectations

Three hours

Tuesday, Sept. 1, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Session 2: Children in Care and Their Families

Three hours

Thursday, Sept. 3, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 8, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 5, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 3, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Session 3: Foster Family Self Care

Three hours

Tuesday, Sept. 8, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

SUPPORT SESSIONS

New Foster/Adoptive Parents, upon receiving their first foster child placement, must attend two support sessions within the first 30 days. These sessions are also open to any foster/ adoptive placement who receives a new placement.

New Placement Check-In

Three hours

New Placement Check-In is an opportunity to foster parents to connect with other foster parents, have their immediate questions answered, and get advice from an expert panel of Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare Staff and experienced foster parents.

Saturday, Oct. 3, 9:00 a.m. – noon.

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 7, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 2, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 9:00 a.m. – noon.

Building Trusting Relationships

Three hours

Building Trusting Relationships focuses on skill development and practice in having difficult conversations with foster youth, birth parents and BMCW staff.

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 19, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 31, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 21, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Wednesday, Dec. 16, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 19, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

FOUNDATION TRAINING SESSIONS

During the initial two year licensing period, foster/adoptive parents must complete the 10 module Foundation curriculum. Different modules are offered throughout the year, so check back often!

Maintaining Family Connectedness

Three hours

This workshop provides information about the losses experienced by birth families, expected behaviors of grieving birth parents, and ways to work effectively with birth families along a continuum of contacts. Parents/ caregivers also learn how to identify key members of the child's birth family and the significance of sibling connections

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 15, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Cultural Dynamics in Placement

Three hours

This workshop presents an overview of culture and the ways in which our values and codes of conduct are impacted by culture. Participants learn to separate culture from race and learn to identify the many and complex ingredients of cultural identity. Caregivers will also learn methods to more

successfully parent a child from a culture different from their own.

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Attachment

Three hours

This workshop demonstrates normal, healthy attachment and how it influences child development. Parents/caregivers are introduced to how attachment is the foundation for guidance and positive discipline. and how it is impacted by separation from primary parents, siblings, and other attachment figures. Participants also learn to identify stages in the grieving process as well as strategies to reduce the trauma to children who have experienced separations from significant others.

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 10, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Separation and Placement

Three hours

This workshop examines the effects of separation on the child within their cultural context. Participants also learn to identify stages in the grieving process as well as strategies to reduce the trauma to children who have experienced separations from significant others. In addition, the workshop also examines issues related to emotional conflict and the impact of multiple placements on the child.

Wednesday, Sept. 30, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 31, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Guidance and Positive Discipline

Three hours

This workshop examines the reasons for behavioral problems among foster and adopted children. The workshop also explains the agency policy regarding corporal punishment and the underlying reasons for that policy. Finally, participants receive information on positive ways to manage behavior including natural and logical consequences, contracting, and rewards.

Saturday, Oct. 3, 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Partners in Permanency

Three hours

This workshop introduces the parent or caregiver to the primary goals of child protective services and how these services can help achieve protection and permanence for children and their families. The parent or caregiver is introduced into their role as a member of the team and how collaboration with caseworkers, the child protection agency and other professionals is imperative to serving the child, birth family and foster parent. The importance of advocacy for the child is also emphasized as the best interest of the child needs to be implemented during case planning, with schools and other service agencies/providers.

Tuesday, Oct. 20, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Effects of Fostering on the Family

Three hours

This workshop examines the impact of foster care, adoption, and kinship care on the family system. Information is presented on disclosure of important information to foster and adoptive parents and protocol for handling challenges specific to foster care. The workshop enables prospective parents to develop effective coping strategies and survival plans.

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Dynamics of Abuse and Neglect: Contributing Factors

Three hours

This workshop familiarizes the parent/caregiver with the dynamics of physical and sexual abuse, emotional maltreatment and neglect as well as the physical behavioral indicators in children. Parents/caregivers also become familiar with the types of family situations that can contribute to abuse and neglect. Laws regarding mandatory reporting of suspected abuse and neglect are also examined.

Thursday, Nov. 19, 5:30p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Dynamics of Abuse and Neglect: Signs and Indicators

Three hours

Prerequisite: Dynamics of Abuse and Neglect: Contributing Factors. This workshop familiarizes the parent/caregiver with the dynamics of physical and sexual abuse, emotional maltreatment and neglect as well as the physical behavioral indicators in children. Parents/caregivers also become familiar with the types of family situations that can contribute to abuse and neglect. Laws regarding mandatory reporting of suspected abuse and neglect are also examined.

Tuesday, Nov. 24, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Impact of Trauma on Child Development

Three hours

This workshop examines the dynamics of child maltreatment. The workshop will explore underlying reasons a parent or caregiver might abuse or neglect children. The session gives participants an overview of normal child development and examines the impact of abuse and neglect on child development.

Saturday, Dec. 19, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

MASTERY SERIES AND ELECTIVES

Safe Sleep Environments and Practices

Two hours

This session will focus on risk factors associated with SIDS, incidence rates and what you can do to reduce the risks.

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Independent Living Skills for the School Age Child

Three hours

“The sooner the better” when it comes to teaching your foster child about how to be a responsible, successful and happy adult. Parents can help children under the age of 12 prepare for adulthood by teaching them specific skills, and how to make good choices. Learn how to teach your foster children about various topics important to becoming independent and self-sufficient--budgeting, health, home management, scheduling, friendships, housing, cooking, fire safety, first aid, being a smart consumer/shopper

Saturday, Sept. 19, 12:30p .m. – 3:30 p.m.

Discipline taught in Spanish

Three hours

This workshop examines the reasons for behavioral problems among foster and adopted children. The workshop also explains the agency policy regarding corporal punishment and the underlying reasons for that policy. Finally, participants receive information on positive ways to manage behavior including natural and logical consequences, contracting, and rewards. This session will be taught entirely in Spanish.

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Helping your child learn: Strategies and resources at MPS

Three hours

Come learn about how you can encourage your child's education and about the resources available to you through the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS). This session will include lots of tips from inside MPS and plenty of time for questions.

Thursday, Sept. 24, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Discipline in Foster Care: Managing Our Behaviors to Manage Theirs

Six hours

This "Advanced PACE" course picks up where the PACE module on discipline left off. You will focus on how to use discipline to teach, how to do so in a way that communicates self-respect as well as respect for the child and for cultural traditions. You will also learn specific, practical strategies to use in difficult situations and how to plan for the best results.

Saturday, Oct. 10, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Understanding Allegations

Three hours

Some say it's not a matter of "If" it's a matter of "When" as it relates to Foster Parents and Abuse Allegations. If the "When" is now or you want to prepare for the when the "When" comes. Join us for this session as we help you gain a better understanding of the complexities of Abuse Allegations.

Saturday, Oct. 17, 9 a.m. - noon.

Video Discussion: Sleep Problems

Two hours

This program includes sleep problems caused by sleeping alone, roaming, night terrors and depression.

Thursday, Oct. 22, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Video Discussion: Positive Parenting 2

Two hours

Positive Parenting 2 is about how to set limits and make them work. The first segment, Setting Limits, addresses established household rules. The second segment explores behavior contracts and shows how these contracts help parents and children build mutual understanding on behavior and rewards.

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

This session will be held at Children's Service Society of Wisconsin, 620 S. 76th St. Sorry, no child care is available.

Foster Families and How They Grow

Six hours

This workshop is specifically designed for foster parents in the early years of foster parenting. The session will focus on the unique challenges associated with fostering, understanding the role of foster parents and managing the barriers in fulfilling that role. In addition, participants will address stressors to foster parenting and identify strategies to build a healthy fostering experience.

Saturday, Nov. 14, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Diffusing Crisis Safely and Sanelly

Six hours

This workshop helps participants understand anger as an unmet need, identify the stages of a developing crisis and build corresponding de-escalation skills. They will build their confidence about dealing with angry individuals. Participants will learn to recognize the role of body language and personal space in diffusing tense situations. They will assess how their own values, expectations, responses to anger and personal

temperament can diffuse a situation or contribute to even greater escalation.

Saturday, Nov. 21, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

AODA Issues with Foster Youth

Three hours

Youth and addictions they can be a dangerous combination. Join us for this session as we look at the substances youth today are using and their potential effects on your foster youth.

Wednesday, Dec. 2, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Permanency Issues for Foster Families

Three hours

This workshop examines the adoption-related issues often experienced by adoptive parents and their effect on the family system. The workshop presents techniques for talking with children about their birth histories and adoption experience. Trainees also receive information about post adoption services.

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Permanency Issues for Children

Three hours

This workshop examines the effects of children of long-term separation from their families, either through adoption or long-term foster care. The workshop describes events that may serve to trigger emotional distress and behavioral problems in children experiencing long-term separation.

Thursday, Dec. 17, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Special Topics in Communication

Three hours

These monthly workshops focus on selected topics related to communication. The workshops aim to give participants opportunities to practice communication skills whether it is with children, partners, workers, or others they may come in contact with through the experience of foster parenting.

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

FREE ON-LINE COURSES

Foster/Adoptive parents receive two FREE credits per calendar year for on-line courses through Fosterparentcollege.com. To register call 414-229-4086 with a valid individual email address.

